

# THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

## Divi Resorts hosts an elegant welcome for the silver anniversary CATA delegates



line executives, travel wholesalers and major tour operators, this year from nine Latin American countries. The ninety delegates attending the event consider Aruba a premiere destination for their clients, and are here to keep abreast of the latest developments on the island in regards to its tourism product.

They received a memorable welcome by the Divi Events and Catering team, showcasing the ideal design of the clubhouse for accommodating incentive and conference groups. The delegates were able to admire the sunset over the fairways while enjoying cocktails and tasty hors d'oeuvres on the clubhouse patio, where they were officially greeted by Divi management and Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) representatives.

After an exciting performance by a local tumbling and acrobatics troupe, the delegates were escorted to Windows on Aruba to end the evening with a stunning buffet. The restaurant's culinary team outdid themselves with a fantastic selection of delectable dishes, which beautifully demonstrated how perfect a venue it is for smaller, elegant affairs.

Carving and seafood stations, a gourmet salad bar and a separate wine and cheese tasting station were punctuated by other specialty tables to demonstrate the latest fashion in fine buffet dining. The veteran delegates were uniformly impressed by the presentation and quality of the display.

Yesterday morning, CATA conducted their official opening at the Renaissance Convention Center, with the Minister of Tourism, Transport, Primary Sector and Culture, Otmar Oduber and CEO of the ATA, Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes, officially welcoming the delegates.

Continued on pg 2



ORANJESTAD -- The 25th Anniversary edition of the Conferencia Anual de Turismo Aruba, or CATA, began on Wednesday evening, March 19 with an elegant

event hosted by Divi Resorts at the clubhouse of the Divi Links golf course.

CATA is two days of intense networking with major tourism partners, such as air-

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## Clashes in Caracas after opposition mayors arrested

CARACAS (AFP) - Demonstrators clashed with riot police in Caracas on Thursday after a march against the arrest of two opposition mayors accused of failing to stop violence in protests that have rocked Venezuela.

Some 3,000 people had rallied against the socialist government of President Nicolas Maduro before a subgroup of protesters threw rocks at police who responded with tear gas and water cannons.

The skirmish ended a three-day lull in violence after the military removed hardline protesters from a plaza in a Caracas opposition stronghold.

Maduro's government has been the target of near daily protests fueled by public anger over soaring crime, hyperinflation, shortages of such basic goods as toilet

paper and further stoked by heavy-handed police tactics.

The president, who succeeded late leftist leader Hugo Chavez last year, has combined calls for dialogue with a hard stance against opposition rivals and demonstrators.

"They talk about peace and continue sending contradictory signals. Yesterday (Wednesday) they arrested two mayors, of course it's a provocation," said Alejandro Solis, a civil engineering student at the protest.

The opposition and non-governmental organizations accused the Maduro administration of using the judiciary for political ends.

The United States voiced deep concern about the two mayors' arrests.

Continued on pg 6

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## Divi Resorts hosts an elegant welcome for...

Continued from pg 1



Tonight, the Silver Anniversary CATA will end with an award dinner at the Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino, honoring Aruba's

Latin American travel partners for outstanding performance and loyalty.

By Rosalie Klein



Keynote speakers included Edgar Camilo Plazas of Imagen Digital, Manual Caro, CEO of MDE Consulting Group and Freddy Vargas

from the Aruban government's Office of Energy, explaining the island's plans and progress toward a fully sustainable Aruba by 2020.

**Early Bird Menu**  
 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

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## DAO: First King's Birthday will be celebrated officially on Saturday, April 26



**King of the Dutch Kingdom Willem-Alexander**

The Department of Labor and Investigation (DAO) recently announced that the first King's birthday, the day on which His Majesty King Willem Alexander's birth date is celebrated is on Sunday, April 27, 2014. In The

Netherlands it is a custom when the king's birth date falls on a Sunday, for the celebration to take place one day before.

Aruba's government has decided to celebrate the first King's Birthday officially on the same day as The Netherlands: **Saturday, April 26, 2014.**

This day will be considered as the official holiday in accordance with the Labor Ordinance 2013 art. 22.

DAO requests all companies and workers to pay attention to this, especially regarding compensation for employees who work on a holidays.

## Theo and Diny van den Berg honored at the Perle D'or



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple, whom are loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Perle D'or Pam Pam

Restaurant as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit

Aruba for 10 to 19 consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Theo and Mrs. Diny van den Berg from Nijmegen Netherlands. Theo and Diny love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, shopping and being on Aruba is like being home for them. The van den Berg couple have many local friends on the Island whom they meet every time they visit Aruba and one of their best friends is Ms. Annemarie Verblackt. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with a group of friends of Theo and Diny.

## Weather Update Aruba



**WEATHER:** MOSTLY SUNNY AND GENERALLY DRY.

**MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE** 32 CENTIGRADE / **MINIMUM TEMPERATURE** 26 CENTIGRADE.

**SUNRISE** 6:44 AM / **SUNSET** 6:51 PM.

**WIND:** STRONG WINDS DIRECTION

EAST AVERAGE 22 KTS GUSTING UP TO 34 KTS.

### GENERAL SITUATION:

CURRENT WEATHER IS GOING TO PERSIST WITH STABLE AND DRY CONDITIONS. NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IS EXPECTED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK.

TRADEWINDS REMAIN STRONG.

SAHARAN DUST MAY REDUCE VISIBILITY A LITTLE.

### MARINE CONDITIONS:

WAVE DIRECTION WILL BE EAST WITH WAVE-HEIGHTS BETWEEN 6 TO 9 FEET.

**USE CAUTION OVER OPEN WATERS DUE TO STRONG WINDS.**

**EXPECTATIONS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK AND WEEKEND:** WEATHER REMAINS MOSTLY SUNNY AND DRY.

TRADEWINDS REMAIN STRONG.

SAHARAN DUST MAY REDUCE VISIBILITY SOMEWHAT.

TEMPERATURE WILL FLUCTUATE AROUND NORMAL.

**OBSERVED TEMPERATURE (CENTIGRADE) AND RAINFALL (MM) IN THE LAST 24 HOURS:** AIRPORT MAX 31 / MIN 26 / 0.00 / HADICURARI MAX 29 / MIN 26 / 0.00



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- Chicken Sate \$10.85

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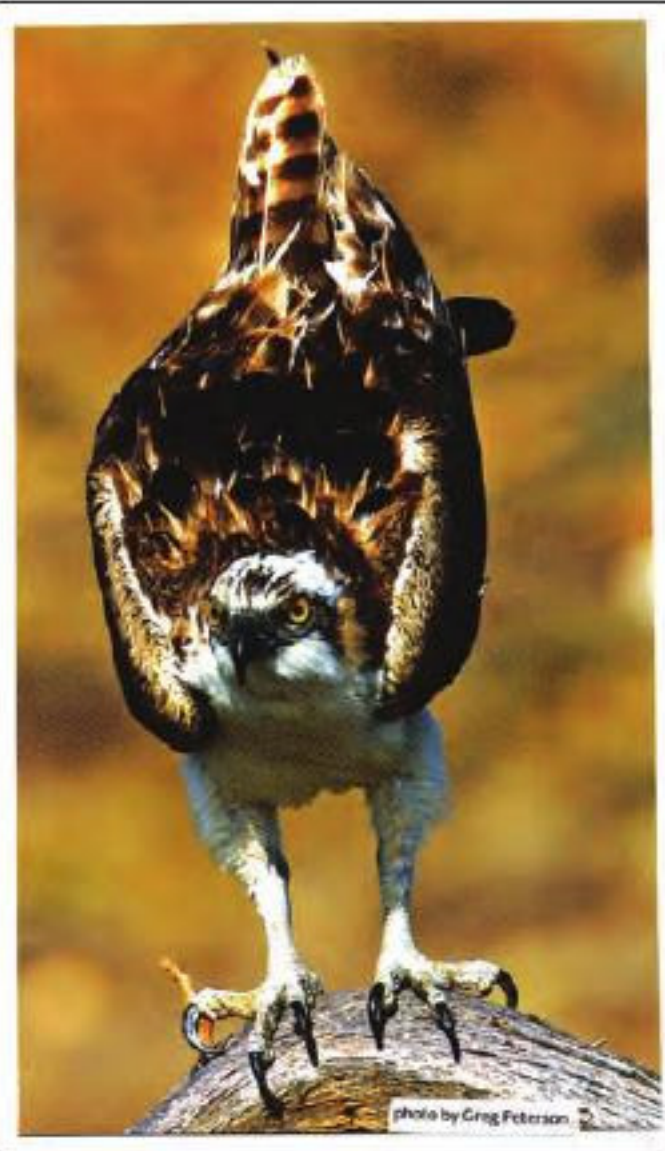
## Beware of Senor Gabilan Piscador

**By Isaac Chin**

The old saying: "One is never too old to learn" is true today as it was a decade ago. For instance, at the ripe age of 96, I am still learning. One of my most traumatic learning experiences occurred this Christmas. I cannot help but share it with you.

It has to do with a beautiful bird which has received honors by being on AIG's 2014 calendar - January page. Its common name on Aruba is Gabilan Piscador, but most commonly, Osprey or sometimes chicken hawk. Admire this bird but BEWARE! Its beautiful colors are deceptive. Under its feathers lies a heart that is vicious and fearless. Its long, curved, sharply-pointed talons could sink into the thickest skin. Its sharp, curved beak could make mincemeat of any meat. It is a shrewd tactician: attacking only from behind when its target is moving away. Though undisturbed, it would mercilessly attack any moving creature irrespectively of size, human beings included.

A few months ago, a friend told me he was barely



able to escape while in his yard in San Barbola. I enjoyed the report, not knowing that mine would soon come. It came the day before Christmas. My daughter was outdoor watering plants, when, out of nowhere, a bird

swooped down on her head, repeatedly, forcing her to flee, screaming and flaring away with her hands. (It was fun seeing her in such a frenzy.) The following day, while watering my plants, enjoying the 5:00 p.m. weather, and humming the song: "What a wonderful world," the bird - which was sitting on an overhead electrical cable nearby - swooped down and landed on my head. I was able to knock it down with my hands. It fell on the ground, stunned. I tried to whack it with one of my shoes, but it took off, seemingly unhurt. But it left me with a bleeding scar under my right eye, and perhaps a blood pressure of over 160.

The following day - Christmas Day - my daughter and I saw the bird in the patio harassing our two cats.

My daughter was able to take a few photo shots. Then I was attacked. I was armed with a fly swatter. I made contact. The bird fell on the floor, stunned. I tried to swat it again, but it took off.

My daughter swore that she'd killed the son of a ... She ridiculed me for trying to kill it with a fly swatter. The following day she came and armed herself with one of my frying pans. I suggested that I should carry the pan because I would be better able to contact the bird before it touched down. "No! No!" she said, bearing in her mind that in my frail condition I would surely miss the bird, but not her head.

We went outside. The bird was on an electric cable, evidently waiting for us, this time in company with another of his kind. Evidently, he had brought reinforcement. When about 5 meters away it swooped down on my daughter who tried to fend it off with the pan, but did not make contact. The bird kept attacking. My daughter took refuge in the porch, the bird following, determined to make mincemeat

of her head. Then, she made contact. The bird fell on the floor, stunned. My daughter's killer instinct flared. Several blows with the pan and the final one with an iron tool nearby brought an end to Mr. Gabilan. He now lies in the pan on a wall in the sun. I have not seen his mate since.

I address him as a male, because on Aruba it is said that only the male Gabilan attacks.

Continued on pg 5



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## Beware of Senor Gabilan Piscador

Cont. from pg 4

However, there are many reports on the Internet that say that female, too, attack, sometimes more ferociously than males. According to the Internet, the natural habitat of the Osprey is the cold north. They migrate to the tropics during the winter. Their sole diet is fish, therefore, live near lake- and seaside. But they would not turn down rodents, rabbits, hares, other birds and small reptiles. And sometimes see a human head as dinner.

The above account is unbelievable but true in every detail. Believe it and beware of Senor Gabilan Piscador. And, if you encounter one, arm yourself with a frying pan, not a fly swatter. And sing out loud: "Gabilan, Gabilan go back to Maine. And never return to dushi Aruba again."

Photo above is of a Senor Gabilan Piscador (photo courtesy of Greg Peterson of Aruba Bird Conservation)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Ospreys are known to swoop down on people getting close to their nests. The good news is ospreys will let you know when you get too close. They are not strong silent types. They are gregarious—if you are bugging them they'll let you know. But they also let you know about anything else they are feeling. They aren't shy. For human beings, especially birdwatching human beings, they are a delight, since they don't seem to mind us being voyeurs. They do everything in the open—including building their nests, learning to fly, feeding their young, and breeding. If you happen to find an osprey on its nest, try to make your visit a short one. You will know if you are too close because the osprey will cry out repeatedly and keep circling the nest.

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## Early Bird menu now available at Daniel's Steak House



**ORANJESTAD** - Recently, Daniel's Steak and Chop House introduced a tempting early bird menu. Initially, it was part of the celebration of our national day, Anthem and Flag Day, on March 18. The

Early Bird special proved so popular, it will continue to be valid for the month of March, between 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at a price of only AWG 50. (\$28.) for island residents only.

Daniel's Steak and Chop is an all American steakhouse offering charcoal grilled meat. The secret seasoning results in particularly succulent and tasty dishes. The chef's policy is to use as many natural ingredients as possible, but keeping in mind the standards of flavor and quality of the meat.

The early bird menu is a three course dinner consisting of various choices for each course. Appetizers include a selection of Escargot, Cesar Salad, Homemade cream of potato soup, pumpkin soup and the main course offers a mixed grill of Filet Mignon, Spanish Sausage, Shrimp and Chicken fillet, or 8 oz. New York Strip Steak. For dessert choose among the mouthwatering sweets of Profiterole (soesjes), Key Lime Pie, Strawberry Sorbet, Ice Cream or our famous Mango Guava Cheesecake.

Besides the early bird dinner, Daniel's Steak and Chop also has another special 3-course menu for island residents at AWG 65.

Appetizers include Caesar Salad, Cream of Pumpkin or Cajun Crab Cakes with Daniel's homemade tartar sauce; while for a main dish select from T-Bone Steak, Mixed Grill, Fresh Caught Salmon or 1/2 Grilled



Chicken. Desserts consist of Profiteroles, Ice Cream (Vanilla, Nutella or Strawberry Sorbet) or a creamy slice of Key Lime pie.

Daniel's Steak and Chop is part of Gianni's Group, which consists of 6 popular eateries and one nightclub: Daniel's Steak and Chop, Gianni's Ristorante Italiano, Amore Mio, Gelatissimo, Confession Club, Azzurro and The Beach bar (the 2 latter are situated at the Playa

Linda (Happy Hours from 12:00 to 4:00 PM and 7:00 to 9:00PM).

Also, Amore Mio gourmet pizzeria offers delivery service from Ritz Carlton to Manchebo Beach hotels and the Noord area. For any catering event contact Gianni's Group, they are more than willing to go that extra mile to please customers.

For more information visit their website [www.giannis-group.com](http://www.giannis-group.com) or like their Face-



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## Clashes in Caracas after opposition mayors arrested

Cont. from pg 1

"The Venezuelan government should stop the violence against its citizens and opposition officials who are exercising their freedom of speech," said US State Department spokesman Jen Psaki.

"We call, again, on the Venezuelan government to release those it has unjustly jailed, lift restrictions on freedom of the press and engage in an authentically inclusive dialogue with Venezuelans across the political spectrum," she said.

The protests have mainly taken place in middle-class opposition strongholds and Maduro still enjoys support among Venezuela's larger, poor population, allowing him to weather the weeks-long protests that have left 31 people dead, according to official figures.

- Crackdown on defiant mayors -

The latest demonstration was organized a day after domestic intelligence agents arrested Daniel Ceballos, the mayor of San Cristobal, the western city where the first protests erupted on February 4.

Students launched the first protest in San Cristobal to decry crime after the attempted rape of a young woman. The demonstrations then spread to other major cities.

Interior Minister Miguel Rodriguez accused Ceballos of encouraging "civilian rebellion" and backing violence in his city, an opposition bastion where students and residents have built barricades to defy the authorities.

Separately, the mayor of the northern town of San Diego, Enzo Scarano, was stripped of his post by the

Supreme Court and sentenced to 10 months in prison on charges that he failed in his duty to stop public disorder during protests.

In San Diego, hundreds of Scarano's followers gathered in public squares while barricades were built in several streets. The National Electoral Council called new polls to replace the ousted mayor.

Gonzalo Himiob, director of the Penal Forum NGO, wrote on Twitter that Scarano's arrest was a "judicial aberration."

The two politicians were locked up at the Ramo Verde military prison outside the capital, the same site where the authorities are holding opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez, who has promoted protests aimed at ousting Maduro.

The ruling party in the unicameral national assembly voted to request a probe of another opposition figure, legislator Maria Corina Machado, accusing her of "instigating delinquency, treason, terrorism and homicide."

- Dialogue or 'smoke screen'? -

The crackdown on opposition figures contrasts with Maduro's call for rivals to join a "peace conference."

The main opposition refuses to join the dialogue until the government frees more than 100 protesters who remain behind bars.

"The contradictions are typical of such regimes that find their strength in repression," political analyst Mercedes Pulido de Briceno told AFP.

She called the government's call for dialogue a "smoke screen" to "satisfy its audience, its people."



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## Australia resumes ocean search for possible plane debris

CANBERRA (AFP) - Australia prepared to resume its search Friday for possible plane wreckage floating in a remote and stormy section of the Indian Ocean, as the vast international hunt for a missing passenger jet entered its 13th day.

Surveillance aircraft on Thursday detected a pair of floating objects captured by satellite imagery, which Australia and Malaysia guardedly called a "credible" lead in the baffling mystery surrounding missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

The Australian-led search was due to restart at first light, as a Norwegian merchant ship arrived in the target area about 2,500 kilometres (1,500 miles) southwest of Perth, after warnings of poor weather conditions and limited visibility.

Four aircraft suspended

their search at nightfall Thursday without any sighting of the possible debris after scouring a 23,000-square-kilometre (8,900-square-mile) area where the grainy images were snapped, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority said.

Two planes came from Australia, one from New Zealand and one was a US aircraft, while another merchant ship was en route to join Norway's Hoegh St Petersburg merchant ship.

The Australian navy's HMAS Success was also headed for the area, and Britain sent a naval survey ship, HMS Echo.

Australia said the satellite-captured objects -- the largest was estimated at 24 metres (79 feet) across -- raised hopes of a breakthrough in the Malaysian plane's mysterious disappearance as rela-

tives of the 239 people aboard braced for another emotional roller-coaster.

"We now have a credible lead," Transport Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said during Malaysia's daily briefing on the crisis.

"There remains much work to be done to deploy the assets."

Clearly wary of raising hopes following a series of past false leads, Hishammuddin warned of delays in verifying the apparent debris.

- 'Awash with water' -

The Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777, carrying 227 passengers and 12 crew, vanished in the early hours of March 8 after veering drastically off course over the South China Sea while en route to Beijing.

Investigators say it was deliberately diverted but still don't know by whom, why or where it ended up.



## Uruguay agrees to receive five Guantanamo detainees

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - Uruguay said Thursday it had agreed to receive five prisoners of as yet undisclosed nationalities from the US war on terror prison camp in Guantanamo Bay.

US President Barack Obama is struggling to fulfill his five-year-old promise to close the controversial jail, and countries have been slow to come forward and agree to accept transferred inmates.

Confirming a report first published in the weekly *Busqueda* newspaper, a high-level government source told AFP that Uruguay will host the former inmates for at least two years.

It said US Secretary of State John Kerry thanked Mujica on Monday and confirmed Obama would receive him in the White House before the end of June.

Mujica's official visit to the United States had been planned for last year but was postponed due to scheduling issues for the two leaders.

Transfers out of Guantanamo have increased recently, the latest taking place this month when an Algerian was sent to his home country against his will because he feared abuse there.

Some 154 inmates remain at the prison, erected at a US naval base in Cuba by former president George W. Bush after the September 11, 2001 terror attacks. Most have never been charged or tried.

Obama has said the prison has damaged America's standing in the world but his plan to shutter the facility has been thwarted in part by Congress, which has banned transferring inmates to US soil.



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## Michelle Obama in China for week-long tour

BEIJING (AFP) - Michelle Obama arrived in Beijing on Thursday, kicking off a week-long tour which US officials say is focused deliberately on soft issues in a bid to dispel growing mistrust between the United States and China.

Accompanied by her daughters and mother, the US first lady's visit will take her to some of China's most celebrated sites including the Great Wall, the ancient terracotta warrior sculptures of Xi'an and a panda reserve.

White House officials have said that Michelle Obama would not take up the myriad disputes between the two na-



tions but would instead speak about educational exchanges and emphasise US goodwill towards the Chinese people.

The Chinese public's opinion of the United States has significantly worsened from highs when President Barack Obama took office in 2009.

Forty percent of Chinese had a favourable opinion of the United States in last year's Pew Research Center survey - a figure far below that in Western and African nations but still higher than the rate in most of the Islamic world.

The world's two largest economies have been increasingly at odds over issues that include allegations of mass Chinese cyber-espionage and Beijing's increasing assertiveness in territorial disputes with US allies Japan and the Philippines.

## Storm after Dutch populist Wilders vows 'fewer Moroccans'

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Outspoken Dutch far-right politician Geert Wilders faced an unprecedented storm of protest on Thursday after he told supporters he would ensure there were "fewer Moroccans" in the country.

Hundreds filed complaints with the police and an MP from his anti-Islam PVV party left his grouping in parliament the day after a jovial Wilders promised his chanting supporters he would arrange for there to be fewer Moroccans in the Netherlands.

The public prosecutor's office in Den Haag said it had received more than 100 complaints, adding that over 500 people had also alleged discrimination through the police website.

Dozens more telephoned the police to say they wanted to file a complaint, the public prosecutor said on its website. A Facebook page "I'm filing a complaint against Wilders" had over 48,000 likes by early Thursday evening.

"Why? Because we're Dutch like you. We believe in our country and not in sowing hatred," the Facebook page said.

The largest Moroccan grouping in the Netherlands said earlier Thursday it would file a complaint against Wilders after he repeated the

controversial statement when local government election results were released on Wednesday night.

Television pictures showed Wilders in The Hague asking party faithful whether they wanted "fewer or more Moroccans in your city and in the Netherlands?"

"Fewer! Fewer!" the crowd shouted, with a smiling Wilders answering: "We're going to organise that."

"We believe by targeting a specific group, Wilders this time has gone too far," Habib El Kaddouri, a coordinator at the Grouping of Dutch-Moroccans Foundation (SMN) told AFP, referring to a 2011 court case that saw the platinum-haired politician acquitted on hate-speech charges.

The court ruled that Wilders had targeted a religion, which is permitted under Dutch freedom-of-speech laws, rather than a specific ethnic group.

Wilders, who is often reviled in Dutch immigrant communities for his fiery anti-Islam rhetoric, has in the past compared the Koran to Hitler's "Mein Kampf" and has called Islam a fascist religion.

Prime Minister Mark Rutte also criticised Wilders, saying his comments "left a bad taste in the mouth".



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# Unidentified illness kills 23 in Guinea



CONAKRY (AFP) - A mysterious illness has killed at least 23 people in southern Guinea in six weeks, but the disease has yet to be positively identified, the health ministry announced Thursday.

"A feverish sickness whose first symptoms were observed on February 9 has claimed at least 23 lives, including that of the director of the Macenta district hospital and three staff, out of a total of 36 cases," said Sakoba Keita, the doctor in charge of the ministry's preventive wing.

"The administrative district of Gueckedou is the worst affected, with 13 deaths for 19 cases," Keita added, noting that "the illness is characterised by fever, diarrhoea, vomiting, and bleeding in the cases of some patients."

Medical experts have been sent to the district to try to identify the highly contagious disease, whose symptoms are similar to those caused by Lassa fever, yellow fever and Ebola.

About 30 test samples have been sent to France for analysis, with results expected

"within 48 hours", the doctor said, adding that further samples are due to be examined at the Pasteur Institute in the Senegalese capital Dakar.

Protective measures have been taken on the spot, including quarantine for each of the patients, as well as individual and collective measures affecting the local population.

Three thousand health kits intended for medical personnel and residents of high-risk areas are awaited from Burkina Faso, while the Swiss branch of Doctors Without Borders (MSF) has already sent 100 tonnes of medical equipment.

## AIDS: Crimean drug users at risk, says NGO

PARIS (AFP) - More than 14,000 injecting drug users in Crimea risk being cut off from life-saving treatment and services prohibited in Russia, an NGO working to halt HIV spread warned on Thursday.

Most immediately at risk are about 800 Crimeans who depend on opioid substitute therapy (OST), the International HIV/AIDS Alliance said in a statement highlighting a hidden health consequence of the political crisis.

People on OST receive synthetic drug substitutes which are safer than the heroin they replace and are administered under medical supervision, curbing HIV infection through needle-sharing.

Once treatment is cut off, OST recipients will go into withdrawal and many are likely to revert to their old, unsafe drug habits, the British-based group said.

Contrary to Ukraine, where drug addicts have access to HIV prevention services like clean needle exchanges, condom distribution and HIV-testing, Russia takes a punitive approach to drug use that the alliance claimed was responsible for one of the highest rates of new HIV infections in the world.

OST has been available in Crimea for almost a decade under the political control of Ukraine.

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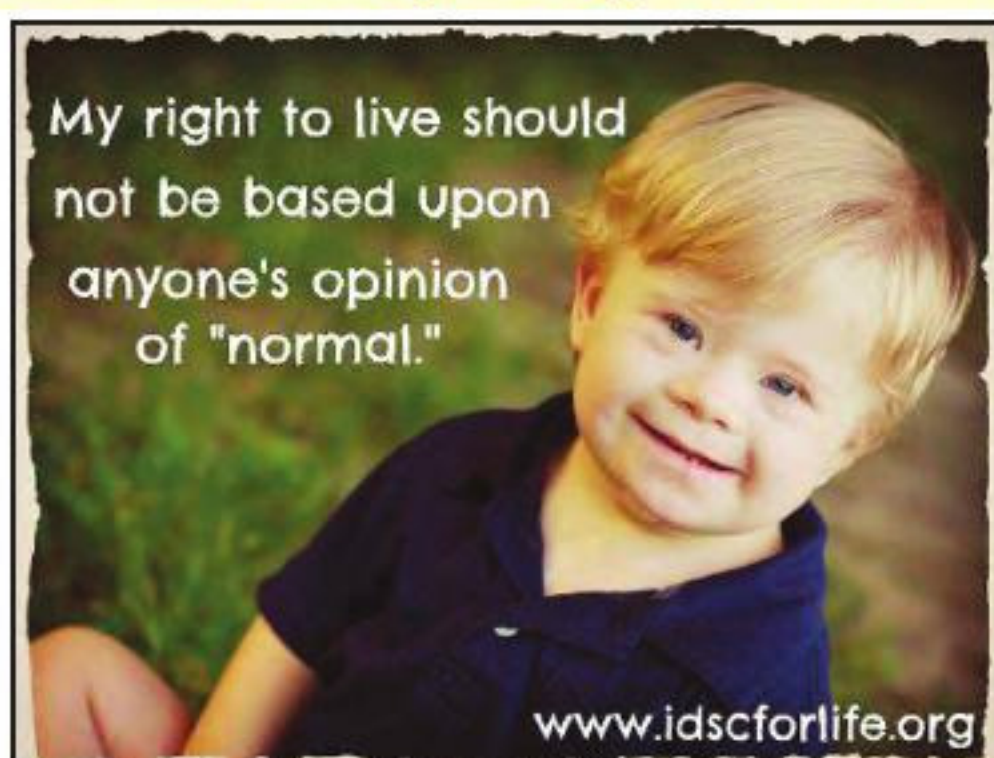
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## For WDSD 2014, DSI is focusing on: “Health and Wellbeing - Access and Equality for All”

- 21 March 2014 marks the 9th anniversary of World Down Syndrome Day and each year the voice of people with Down syndrome, and those who live and work with them, grows



louder. But there is still so much more we can do.

All people with Down syndrome have the right to access healthcare when required on an equal basis with others without discrimination and with proper assessment of the specific health needs of the individual. We will be highlighting that:

- 1-Having Down syndrome does not make a person unhealthy.
- 2-Down syndrome is a genetic condition, not an illness.
- 3-People with Down syndrome may have health issues throughout their lives, just like everyone else and they should have access to healthcare on an equal basis with others.
- 4-There are specific known health issues which may affect people with Down syndrome, for which accurate, evidence based information is available.
- 5-Health professionals should be aware of these specific issues when treating a person with Down syndrome.
- 6-Health professionals should

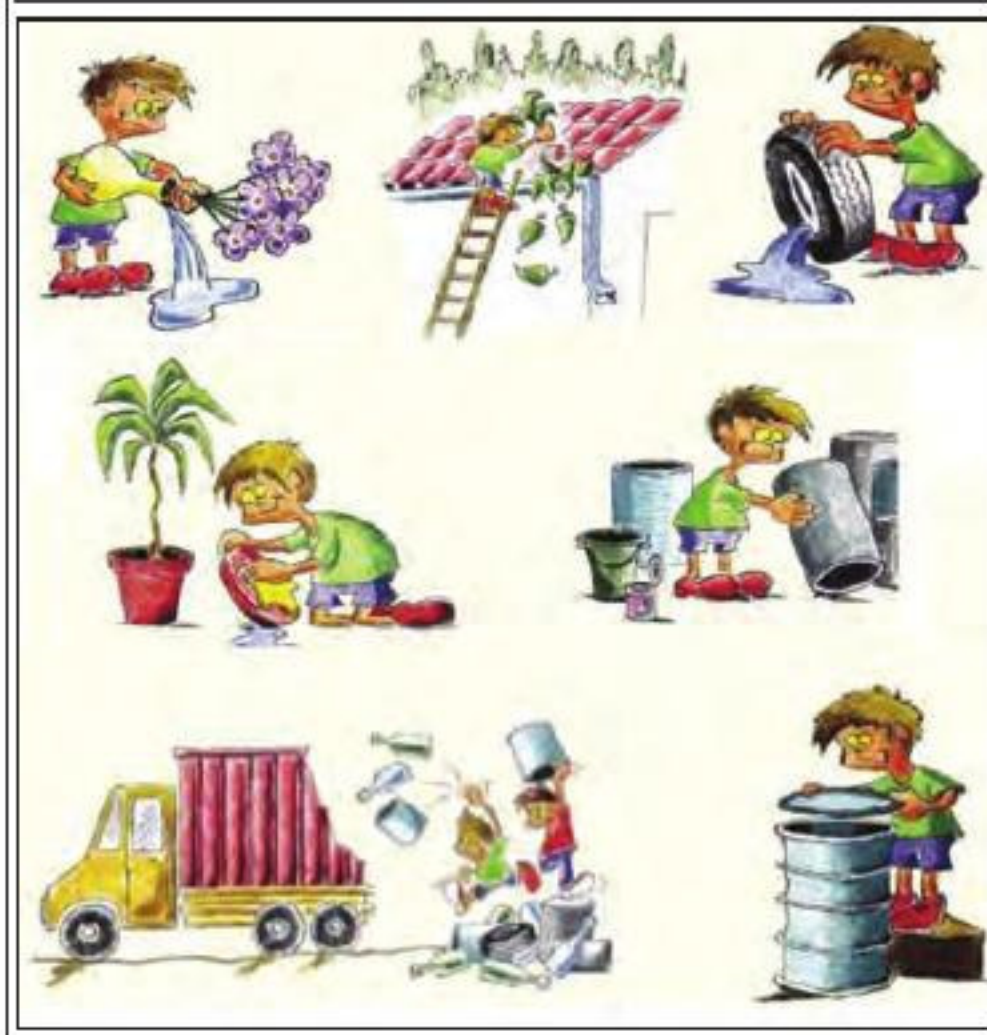
not discriminate against people with Down syndrome by:

- \*refusing to treat them;
- \*blaming health issues on Down syndrome in general, or;
- \*considering only specific known health issues which may affect people with Down syndrome.

Lets create a single global voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and well being of people with Down syndrome on 21 March



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## Iran will not give up uranium enrichment: Rouhani

TEHRAN (AFP) - President Hassan Rouhani insisted Wednesday that Iran would not abandon its enrichment of uranium, after US senators called for it to be denied any such right under a long-term nuclear deal.

His comment came after an overwhelming majority of US senators signed a bipartisan letter to President Barack Obama on Tuesday urging him to reject Iran's claim to the right to enrich uranium for civilian purposes in talks under way with the major powers.

Rouhani said Iran was ready to be more transparent about its nuclear programme to allay Western concerns about its ambitions.

The latest round of talks between Iran and the six powers wrapped up on Wednesday,

with EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton describing them as "substantive and useful".

The next round is scheduled for April 7 in the quest for a long-term deal by a July 20 target date set under an interim agreement reached last November.

The six powers -- Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States plus Germany -- want Iran to reduce permanently, or at least for a long time, the scope of its nuclear activities in order to make it extremely difficult for it ever to develop nuclear weapons.

This would likely include Iran slashing the number of centrifuges enriching uranium -- which can be used for peaceful purposes but also in a bomb, if highly purified -- a

## Spain island eyes world first with wind, water power



MADRID (AFP) - A Spanish island hopes to become the first in the world fully powered by renewable energy later this year when it launches a new wind and water energy plant, a spokeswoman said Thursday. The Gorona de Viento plant is due to launch in June on El Hierro, the smallest of the Canary Islands off the Atlantic coast of Africa, project spokeswoman Cristina Morales told AFP. The two sets of turbines, one powered by wind and one by water currents, have a capacity of 11.5 megawatts each, far exceeding the total eight megawatts used at peak times on the island. To test a system of 100 percent renewable energy, the volcanic island of 278 square kilometres (107 square miles) "is the ideal place because it is so small," Morales added. The plant cost 80 million euros (\$110 million) to build and Morales said the local government hopes to save the same amount over 20 years by using this cheaper renewable energy. The island is also expected to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 18,700 tonnes and diesel consumption by 6,000 tonnes.



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## A sweet, charming dining secret in Palm Beach area: Sweet Pepper

Tucked away in Caribbean Palm Villas is Sweet Pepper, a delightful dining experience from veteran restaurateurs Anky and Harold Paesch, known for nearly two decades as Major Domo and Factotum at Aruba's premiere gourmet restaurant, Chez Matilde. Anky's brother, Ricardo lends his deft hand as a restaurateur to this tranquil, charming venue.

Anky and Harold realized a dream by opening their own eatery a few years ago, and those staying at Caribbean Palm Villas swear by them for breakfast, lunch, dinner and night-time fun. They offer not only a diverse, affordable menu, but most nights out of the week they feature "special attractions," for added appeal.

*Mondays are Italian nights*, for those who just can't do without their favorite international cuisine, with pastas, scampi and freshly made pizza to order.

*Tuesdays it is all you can eat fresh grouper*, prepared in a variety of styles and choice of sauces.

*On Sundays*, islanders flock there for a steady stream of all you can eat tender ribs with fixins', one of the best deals on the island for great BBQ.

For just plain fun, their *Wednesday night Karaoke Dance Party* brings out everyone's inner rock star, with attractive drink prices and a DJ that draws you and makes you feel a part of the action. Whether in the audience or singing along, it is a hilarious night beginning at 9:00 PM.

The regular menu features ample portions of seafood and freshly caught local fish, superb steaks and a Tuna Tataki salad to die for, either for lunch or as a dinner appetizer, this is a must-try.

The utterly charming spot also featured THREE (count em!)

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Our Happy Visitors



kebabs



Lobster tail

tions, including frozen drinks.

Sweet Peppers has garnered top ratings on Tripadvisor, with comments describing their fare as "awesome," "excellent," and "sublime," with exceptional, friendly service and great value. The word is out! Sweet Pepper is a spectacular find in the outskirts of Noord, just a short stroll from all the major Palm Beach Re-

sorts.

Come and enjoy some authentic Aruban hospitality and delectable, reasonably priced regional and international cuisine seven days a week, with a personal touch.

At Sweet Peppers, you are not treated like a customer, but a new-found friend.

For reservations: 5860740



# Meet Aruba's unofficial Carnival Ambassador to the World: *Rossini van Wijk*



*Rossini van Wijk*



*Rossini in Aruba's Diamond Jubilee Carnival*

ORANJESTAD -- As spectators gasped and admired the artistry of some of the stunning costumes wending their way through Oranjestad's streets during the final parade of Aruba's Diamond Jubilee Carnival, they may have some point mentally applauded the individuals who labor in conceptualizing, designing and creating these works of art.

On such is Rossini van Wijk, born on Aruba and living on and off in Holland over the past two decades. Much of Rossini's life revolves around Carnival, especially now that he has been in Holland for the past ten years. However, he could not resist taking part in Aruba's landmark event of 2014, and undoubtedly, many may have noticed him and his nieces in plush Venetian Carnival theme costumes guiding a roadpiece down L.G. Smith Boulevard.

"I have been involved with Carnival since I can remember," he recalls. Way back when he was only a child, he participated in the parades with people like the Esso Club, or his sister, whose group was simply called "Alida's Kids Group," and they did not have

formal names or an established hierarchy such as they do now. Rossini can recall only two years in his entire life that he was not involved with carnival, when he lost his parents. Otherwise, it has always been a focal point of his year.

The same immigrant spirit that brought carnival to Aruba, resulted in the Zomercarnaval in Rotterdam, Holland. 30 years past immigrants from the Dutch Caribbean islands, mostly Arubans, began putting on costumes and dancing in the streets. The celebrations were moved to summer, the last Saturday of July, as the winter weather was not conducive to such an event.

The Dutch recognized the commercial and cultural value of this practice, and it became a formalized event with enormous government support, for which Rossini is particularly grateful. Rotterdam provides a work area at the ports for the groups to construct their floats and costumes. They provide all the raw construction materials, such as lumber and nails, as well as a standardized vehicle for the bands, all for no charge.

Additionally, ice and giant coolers are provided gratis to



*During Summer Carnival in Rotterdam*



*Under the Sea theme designed by Rossini*

all groups. As an added incentive for participants to be lavish in their creations, cash prizes are offered for groups and individuals who produced the most dramatic costumes, roadpieces and floats.

"Over the years, groups from Suriname, and all over the Caribbean have joined the Zomercarnaval," reports Rossini. "It creates a very rich cultural tapestry as each nation brings their own cultural traditions to the mix. It is a huge event, four times the size of that in Aruba, taking place only on this one day of the year." His very well-respected group in Holland is called "Kingdoms Under the Sun."

"I wanted my group to have Aruban background," asserts Rossini, "for the music to be Aruban. It wasn't my principal desire to promote Aruba, which happens automatically, but because I had many compatriots living in Holland, I felt they wished to be able to identify with a particular group."

This is not to say Rossini is not enthusiastic about Aruba's

annual event, which he considered particularly fantastic this past year. He did note that he would like to see the costumes more exactly exemplify the various themes of the groups, though beautiful, in his opinion, they need to be more distinctive from one group to the next.

Rossini is now a member of the Federation of European Carnival Cities, or FECC, as staging a carnival such as Aruba's is becoming increas-

ingly popular across the continent. Not only are they thoroughly enjoyed by the populace, both as participants and spectators, but it adds interest to their tourism product and the annual calendar of events.

London, Berlin and Spain have joined Holland in hosting this spectacle of their immigrant cultures, and Rossini is often invited to them as an expert and Ambassador of Carnival. He is looking forward to attending the next one in Spain.

Rossini is very much still involved in Aruba's carnival. He designed costumes this year for TOB, MIO, NBO, OPC and Excellence Carnival Groups, and has already been commissioned to provide designs for next year. His primary focus, however, is "Kingdoms Under the Sun." He began the group upon returning to Holland in 2003, because "I cannot do without my carnival!"

*by Rosalie Klein*



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Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.80
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	3.01
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	202.48
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	247.57
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	28.21
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	33.40
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	29.83
Japan (per 10,000)	JPY	214.88	216.84	175.77

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## Japan passes record \$937 billion budget

TOKYO (AFP) - Japan on Thursday passed its biggest-ever budget, a \$937 billion spending package aimed at propping up growth as consumers brace for the country's first sales tax rise for over 15 years.

A total of 136 lawmakers in the 242-member upper house, controlled by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, voted for the package, against 102 opposition votes, a parliamentary spokesman said. Two lawmakers did not cast a vote, one seat is vacant and the house speaker only casts a ballot in a tie.

The lower house last month approved the 95.88 trillion yen (\$937.4 billion) budget.

The new budget comes as Tokyo pushes for speedy implementation of a \$50 billion stimulus package specially designed to protect Japan's fragile economic recovery, as the sales tax rises to 8.0 percent from 5.0 percent on April 1 -- the first increase since the late 1990s.

The increase is seen as crucial to bringing down Japan's

eye-watering national debt, which is proportionately the worst among rich nations.

But there are fears it will derail Abe's policy blitz, dubbed Abenomics, aimed at kick-starting the world's third-largest economy after it suffered years of growth-denting deflation.

"It is our national project to bring Japan out of deflation," the premier said. "With the passage of the budget, we showed to people at home and abroad a strong determination on the part of our parliament to end deflation."

Abe swept to power in late 2012 on a ticket to rescue Japan's long-lumbering economy.

The budget -- up from 92.61 trillion yen for the current fiscal year -- is seen as key to paying for Japan's snowballing health and social welfare costs.

The rapidly ageing population is putting pressure on the public purse, while low birth rates are threatening to create a demographic time bomb for the heavily indebted nation.

Japan's projected primary balance deficit -- the shortfall between what the government takes in and what it spends, apart from debt-servicing -- is expected to shrink by 5.2 trillion yen to 18.0 trillion yen.

That means Japan's national debt, now more than twice the size of the economy, will continue to rise but at a slower pace.

Public spending projects are part of the proposed budget as well as plans to upgrade Japan's defence forces, as China bulks up its military and fears remain over North Korea's nuclear arms potential.

## West, Russia trade tit-for-tat sanctions over Ukraine crisis

BRUSSELS (AFP) - US President Barack Obama announced a new round of punitive measures for Moscow's annexation of Crimea on Thursday as Europe's leaders also readied to hit back at Russia with fresh sanctions.

But in Moscow, where the lower house of parliament rubber-stamped the absorption of the rebel peninsula, Russia issued its own list of sanctions against nine US officials, including senior political figures and presidential aides.

The latest US measures in the worst East-West crisis since the Cold War target a new list of 20 lawmakers and senior government officials in addition to 11 people already sanctioned by Washington.

Among those named are top businessmen close to President Vladimir Putin such as billionaires Gennady Timchenko, Arkady Rotenberg and Boris Rotenberg plus a bank used by close associates.

In turn, Moscow listed Obama aides Caroline Atkinson, Daniel Pfeiffer and Benjamin Rhodes and senators Mary Landrieu, John McCain and Daniel Coats.

In Brussels, where the 28-nation European Union was gathering for its second summit on Ukraine in less than two weeks, French President Francois Hollande said: "Borders cannot be redrawn and a region allowed to pass from one nation to another without a response."

Hollande said the bloc's leaders would announce fresh sanctions at the two-day meeting "against a certain number

of figures" and would cancel an EU-Russia summit planned for June.

The EU sanctions target at least 12 individuals, "all of them Russian," and all highly-placed, including advisers to Putin "but there are no government ministers" among them, said a diplomat speaking on condition of anonymity.

The list includes Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, who heads Russia's Military-Industrial Commission and is among those targeted by the United States.

But EU nations, heavily dependent on Russian oil and gas, are divided on how far they should go, with many reluctant to take the next step up with tough economic sanctions.

Kiev interim premier Arseniy Yatsenyuk will be in Brussels to sign the political parts Friday of a broad EU Association Agreement whose rejection in November by Ukraine's pro-Kremlin president Viktor Yanukovich sparked the protests that led to his fall.

Putin meanwhile found himself on the defensive in Moscow when United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told him: "I cannot but tell you that I am deeply concerned."

Ban called for the deployment to Ukraine of rights monitors from the UN and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and for an "honest and constructive dialogue" between Moscow and Kiev.

Sanctions and calls for talks have so far done nothing to halt Russian military advances,

with Kiev's new Western-backed government preparing a Crimean evacuation plan for thousands of Ukrainian soldiers and their families.

EU leaders have already suspended talks on easing visa requirements for Russian travellers into Europe -- an issue that Moscow has for years lobbied for -- and slapped travel bans and asset freezes on 21 Russians and Ukrainians considered culpable for the Crimean swoop.

But the measures covered a much lower rank of officials than the initial US list of 11 Russians and Ukrainians and some were pushing for more, including possible economic sanctions which would cause real pain for Russia and quite likely Europe too.

A key area of concern is energy, with Russia supplying more than a quarter of the EU's gas.

EU efforts to diversify energy supplies after Russia cut deliveries to Ukraine in 2006 and 2009 have so far failed to make much headway and the EU leaders are due to discuss the issue again.

Standard & Poor's revised Thursday the outlook on Russia's credit rating to negative from stable on rising political and geopolitical risks linked to the raging Ukraine crisis and accompanying Western sanctions.

The International Monetary Fund said meanwhile it made "significant progress" in talks with Ukraine's new Western-backed government over the resumption of a vital support programme for the crisis-hit state.



HONG KONG (AFP) - Pedestrians shop for their daily needs at a street market in Hong Kong on Thursday. While Hong Kong is home to many modern shopping malls and supermarkets, "wet" markets often set up on the pavement of a street remain the first choice for many residents of the former British colony.

### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

B	O	A	R	A	I	M	R	P	M
O	L	G	A	D	I	V	A	B	R
S	E	E	P	E	L	E	C	T	I
C	O	S	I	G	N	S	E	W	
A	F	T	S	T	E	S	G	A	I
L	O	A	H	E	L	P	S	I	M
S	I	G	H	S	A	U	L	L	E
O	L	S	E	N	X	M	A	S	
R	O	W	O	B	E	Y	E	D	
M	A	R	A	T	H	O	N	N	A
A	L	L	M	I	N	I	S	W	I
D	A	S	E	T	A	E	N	D	S



# COMICS

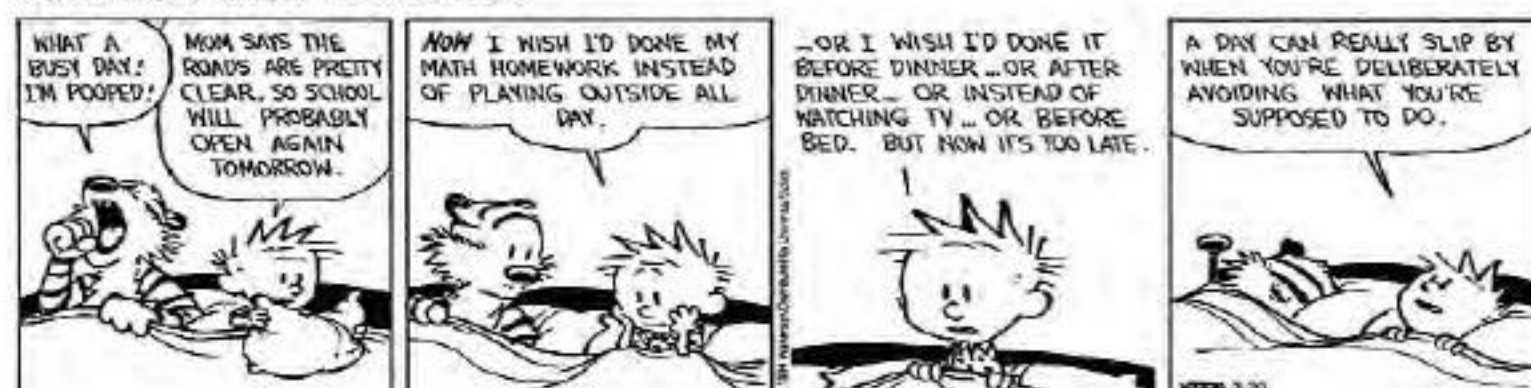
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



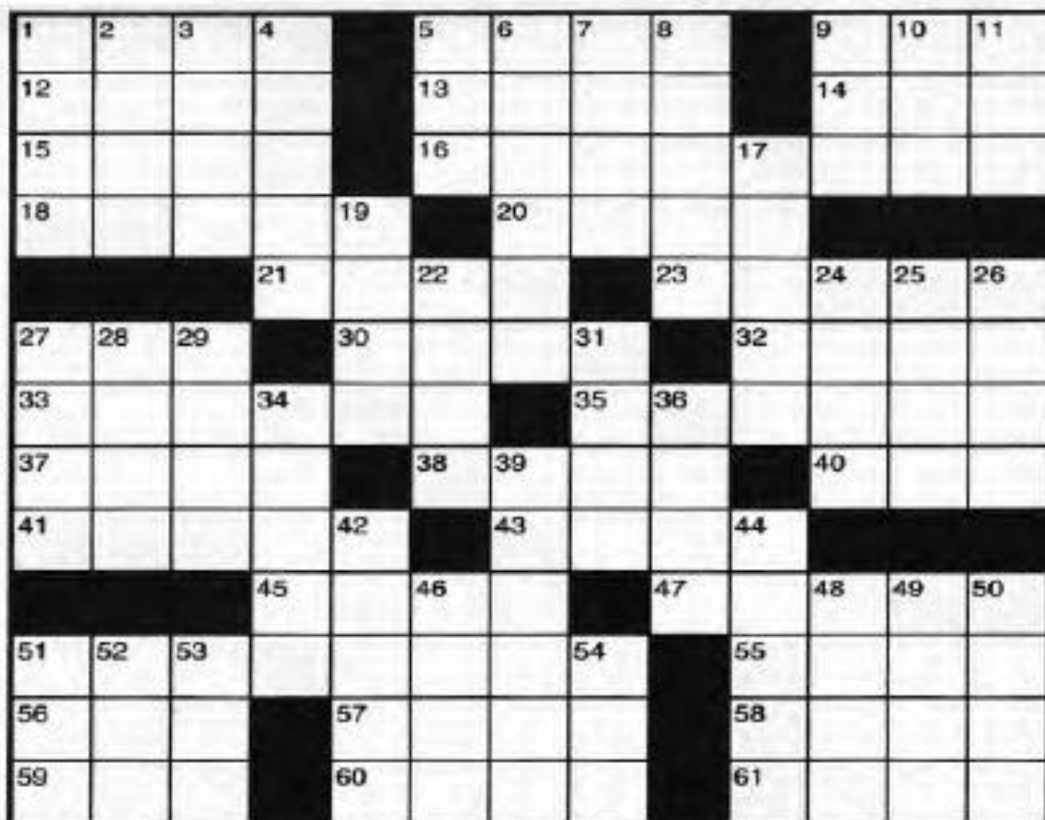
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### ACROSS

1. "Thin Man" pooch
5. Sonoma's neighbor
9. Yale student
12. Patricia of "Hud"
13. "Don't bet \_\_\_!" (2 wds.)
14. Cariou or Deighton
15. Sundance's woman
16. Famous people
18. Pier
20. \_\_\_ of Man
21. Tides' cause
23. Church VIP
27. "\_\_\_ Blue?" (2 wds.)
30. Contribute to the poker pot
32. Roman garb
33. Opposite of true blue
35. Home of the baked bean
37. Burn balm
38. Dr. or U.S., for example
40. New York time (abbr.)
41. Sublets
43. "The Last Time \_\_\_ Paris" (2 wds.)
45. Clothed
47. In \_\_\_ (up in the air)
51. On cloud nine
55. High
56. Mariner's dir.

### DOWN

1. Again
2. Adam's son
3. English farewell (2 wds.)
4. Morning rouser
5. Prefix meaning not
6. Bless with oil
7. Cavities
8. "\_\_\_ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
9. House addition
10. Jamie \_\_\_ Curtis
11. Officeholders
17. Pants holders
19. Baby colt
22. Draft status (hyph.)
24. Fuss over
25. Selves
26. Rave
27. Worship from
28. 1,760 yards
29. Sacred image
31. Recedes
34. Sailboat
36. Spoken
39. Waiting
42. Places for tabs
44. Sorceress
46. Pavarotti solo
48. Hawaiian island
49. Certain sandwiches
50. Bullring cries
51. Mental telepathy (abbr.)
52. GI entertainment center
53. Basilica bench
54. Third letter

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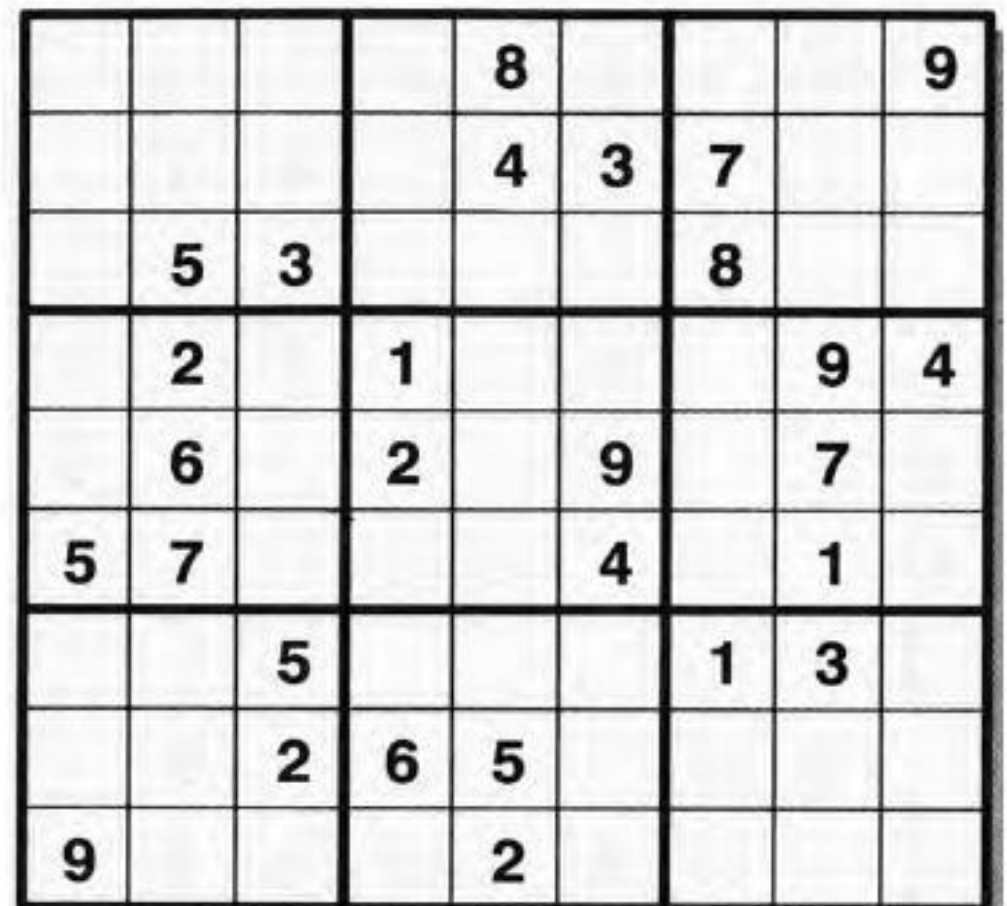
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# Sudoku



SOLUTION

5	9	4	8	2	3	4	1	6
2	8	6	1	5	9	2	3	7
2	3	1	2	6	7	5	8	9
6	1	2	7	9	8	6	2	5
8	2	9	6	3	2	7	9	1
7	6	9	5	2	1	8	2	3
9	7	8	2	1	6	3	5	4
1	2	2	3	7	9	9	6	8
6	9	3	9	8	2	1	7	2

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



**Delicious Breakfast**

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on para-

dise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking. 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at

8am, patrons can now order 2 eggs any style (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) and toast for a price of only \$4.99 or All You Can Eat Pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on, after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie, so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice

beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are



ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to

watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

**5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish Sunday-Thursdays; and until 3am on Friday & Saturdays.**

**Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches!** Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality, it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

## Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway, we are very pleased by the response to our



concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of

Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area, also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services pro-

gram. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their spe-

cific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property, not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas, 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

**Visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.**



## Football: Benfica survive Spurs fright, Juve edge Fiorentina

PARIS (AFP) - Tottenham crashed out of the Europa League on Thursday but not before giving Benfica a huge scare as English interest in the continent's second-tier tournament ended.

Benfica survived a dramatic late onslaught in Lisbon to reach the quarter-finals with a 2-2 draw having won the first leg 3-1 at White Hart Lane last week.

Jorge Jesus's team appeared to be cruising towards the last eight when Ezequiel Garay scored in the first half at the Estadio da Luz.

But Nacer Chadli struck twice in quick succession late in the second half to give Spurs hope of forcing extra-time.

Benfica barely managed to hold out before Rodrigo Lima's penalty in stoppage-time sealed a 5-3 aggregate success which secured the Portuguese club's spot in Friday's quarter-final draw.

An Andrea Pirlo free-kick secured Juventus's ticket to the quarter-finals after a 1-0 win over 10-man Serie A rivals Fiorentina.

Fiorentina had high hopes of making the last eight after a 1-1 draw in Turin last week when Mario Gomez levelled Arturo Vidal's third-minute strike.

But the Florence-based side, who are the only team to have beaten Juventus in Serie A this season, failed to capitalise on what was a poor performance



**TURIN (AFP) - Juventus' midfielder Andrea Pirlo fights for the ball with Fiorentina's midfielder Borja Valero during the UEFA Europa League**

from Juve before the interval.

Fiorentina suffered a huge blow on 68 minutes when defender Gonzalo Rodriguez saw red for a second bookable offence after hauling down Fernando Llorente on the edge of the area.

It gave Juve a free-kick in Pirlo's preferred territory and the Italian playmaker smashed the ball past Brazilian keeper Neto and into the top right-hand corner.

Goran Pandev gave Rafael Benitez's Napoli a 21st-minute lead but Nabil Ghilas came off the bench to level in the 69th minute for Porto.

Ricardo Quaresma ended Napoli's hopes when he dribbled round Valon Behrami and Gokhan Inler to drive into the roof of the net in the 76th minute.

Substitute Duvan Zapata levelled for Napoli at the death but Porto, 1-0 winners in Portugal last week, went through.

Dutch side AZ Alkmaar drew 0-0 at Russia's Anzhi Makhachkala to go through 1-0 on aggregate while Valencia enjoyed a 1-0 home win over Bulgaria's Ludogorets Razgrad for a 4-0 aggregate score.

French side Lyon lost 2-1 at Viktoria Pilsen in the Czech Republic but still went into the quarter-finals 5-3 over the two legs.

In Spain, La Liga's bottom club Real Betis will hope to see through a 2-0 first-leg advantage when they entertain city rivals Sevilla at the Benito Villamarin.

The draw for the quarter-finals takes place on Friday with ties on April 3 and 10.



**DOHA (AFP) - World champion Marc Marquez and Jorge Lorenzo, the two-time winner, gingerly returned to business after surgery on Thursday in the first free practice session for the season-opening Qatar Grand Prix.** Marquez, who became the youngest MotoGP champion in his rookie year in 2013, broke his right leg just six weeks ago in a dirt-bike accident in his native Spain. Not surprisingly, the 21-year-old opted for a softly-softly approach under the desert floodlights of the Losail circuit, ending the session on his Honda down in 11th place. Lorenzo, who was second in the championship in 2013 despite twice breaking his collarbone which required three surgeries over the winter, was down in ninth spot on his Yamaha. It was left to Aleix Espargaro (pictured here) on a Yamaha to set the pace in a time of 1min 55.201sec with Honda rider Alvaro Bautista taking second spot at 0.615sec behind while rookie Yamaha Tech3 rider Bradley Smith of Britain was third.



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### Briefs:



**PRETORIA (AFP) - Oscar Pistorius plans to sell the up-market \$460,000 Pretoria house where he shot dead his girlfriend last year to cover the legal fees for his murder trial, his lawyer said Thursday.** Pistorius has not returned to the modern, two-storey house since he fatally shot his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp there on Valentine's Day last year. Estate agent Ansie Louw, who is handling the sale, told AFP the house will be sold in a closed bid. The bid price was not disclosed, but the property should not go for less than five million rand (\$460,000, 330,000 euro), she added. The Paralympic athlete has been paying his own legal fees since the shooting incident, according to Webber's statement. The costs -- reportedly as high as \$9,000 (6,700 euros) a day -- are said to include at least three full-time lawyers in court, ballistics and forensics experts as well as an American crime scene reconstruction company. Since the shooting Pistorius has been living at his uncle's house in Pretoria.



**LONDON (AFP) - Usain Bolt is suffering from Jamaica's much-criticised drugs policy, according to United States Anti-Doping Agency chief executive Travis Tygart.** Bolt's fellow Jamaican Veronica Campbell-Brown, the two-time Olympic 200 metres champion tested positive for the specified substance hydrochlorothiazide last May, but she argued the urine sample collected had been compromised and saw a two-year ban overturned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Tygart said it was wrong that Bolt, the world record-holder at both the 100 and 200m and a multiple Olympic champion, was constantly having to protest his innocence of drug-taking because of doubts over the reliability of Jamaica's anti-doping programme. Bolt's 9.58 seconds world-record time over 100 metres and his 19.19s 200m landmark have made him one of the most scrutinised athletes of all time. And while Bolt has never tested positive for a banned substance, Tygart said the sprinter's position would be bolstered by a more robust anti-doping regime in his native Jamaica.



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## Baseball: Reds lose Chapman for 6-8 weeks after surgery

PHOENIX (AFP) - Cincinnati Reds closing relief pitcher Aroldis Chapman will be sidelined from six to eight weeks, doctors said Thursday, after he was struck by a batted ball in a pre-season game.

The 26-year-old Cuban left-hander was struck in the head by a ball off the bat of Kansas City's Salvador Perez in a Major League Baseball exhibition on Wednesday night.

Chapman suffered a fracture above his left eye and was taken off, his blood on the mound, to a nearby hospital where Thursday surgery would see a plate inserted into his head to repair damage.

Reds manager Bryan Price said Thursday that the team was happy there was no brain damage or a severe eye injury and that he would be able to re-



sume his career.

Reds medical director Timothy Kremchek said Chapman could be out of the hospital by Saturday and he absolutely would be expected to return to the mound this year, but not before May.

Reds teammate Brandon Phillips tweeted that Chapman was awake and smiling when he visited the hospital but

noted, "Good to see him smile but rather see it on the field."

Chapman suffered the injury in the sixth inning but never lost consciousness during the incident, which halted the game with the Royals leading the Reds 6-3.

Chapman went 4-5 with 38 saves and a 2.54 earned-run average in 68 appearances last season.

## Mental preparation could make all the difference!



ORANJESTAD - Edmundo Josiah is the psychologist for the Aruba Olympic Committee for a number of years.

He has dedicated some 40 years to this task and in his long career as a sports psychologist, he has participated in 5 Olympic Games, 7 Pan American Games, and in more than 30 World Championships and over 200 international competitions. Obviously he has ample expertise to offer specific guidance in mental preparation.

Nowadays the mental guidance is an essential part of the training if an athlete is to be successful when competing regionally, in the continent or world.

For the Chile Games, all our athletes were well prepared mentally before and after the competitions.

As of October 2013 the COA has another sports psychologist in their employ, namely, Julisa Jones, who prepared a few of our athletes mentally for the ODESUR 2014 Games.

Both Josiah and Julisa have guaranteed our athletes that they can count on technical support and excellent medical support/ According to Edmundo, the mental part is not visible, yet undoubtedly marks the difference in the final results of any competition both in the negative as well as in the positive sense

## NBA: Knicks kick off Jackson era with seventh straight win

NEW YORK (AFP) - Carmelo Anthony scored 34 points and Amare Stoudemire tallied 21 as the resurgent New York Knicks opened the Phil Jackson era with their seventh-straight win on Wednesday. Jackson got his first look at the Knicks in just his second day on the job and they didn't disappoint their new president as they beat the first-place Indiana Pacers 92-86. The 68-year-old



Jackson received a standing ovation at Madison Square Garden during the pre-game introductions and it just got better from there for the crowd of 19,812. New York took the lead halfway through the opening quarter and they never lost it after that. The Knicks are now just four games back of Atlanta for the Eastern Conference's final playoff spot with 14 contests to go. The Knicks were knocked out of the playoffs last year by Indiana.

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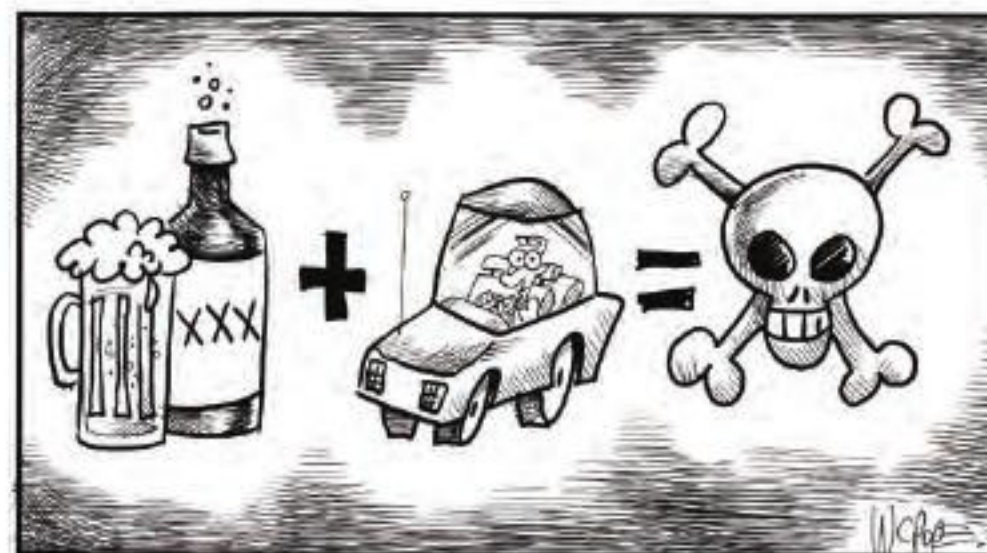
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## Aruba's Professional players say Thank You Aruba

ORANJESTAD - Last December 2013, under the guidance of the first Aruban pitcher to play the big leagues, Eugene Kingsale, the idea was born to bring all the professional players to Aruba.

The idea was for these players to train here and prepare for the new MLB season. A special coaching staff was chosen to guide these players in their mental and physical preparation for the new season.

"The Players" organization was founded and last December the first training was begun and continued through to March 2014 up to the time that all the players left to report at their Spring Training in the USA. Pitchers like Xander Bogaerts of the Boston Red Sox, Randolph Oduber of the Washington Nationals, Liandido Tromp of the Philadelphia Phillies, Chadwick Tromp and Ross Ismail of the Cincinnati Reds, Siicnarf Loopstock and Juan Carlos Munzion of the Cleveland Indians, Adarick Kelly of the Toronto Blue Jays, Ray-Patrick Dider of the Atlanta Braves, Eugene Helder Jr. of the Seattle Marines, Zerinho Croes and Danny Rombley of the Hoofddorp Pioneers and the Dutch selection, Viaandrick Jacobs of the Detroit Tigers.



Also included in the group were young student athletes preparing to enter college in the USA, such as, Abrahm Taveras, Miklos Petronia, Marvin Brown, Mitchell Tromp former Oakland Athletic, Jordan Croes, Randy Young of Faulkner University and Milton Croes Jr of Kirkwood Community College.

These players are all very grateful to the Fundashon Facilidatnan Deportivo as well as to those who either hosted them or provided sponsoring in one way or other. They

mention Urataka Center and Doke Croeze and family, Big Mama Restaurant, Jay's Tire Shop, Claret Lopez, and special thanks to the press and Richard Jacobs, documentary producer.

Special thanks were extended to the coaching staff, coordinators and trainers, hitting instructor and international Scout/Player.

Big plans are in the works for the off season when the season ends in the USA. They look forward to more support from sponsors next time.



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